

MINUTES

ELECTRICAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

NOVEMBER 5, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Larry Vallieres, Chairperson on November 5, 2021 at 9:04 a.m. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

Members Present:

Laurence A. Vallieres	Unlimited Contractor, Chairman
Richard Bird	Unlimited Contractor
Christopher Brown	Unlimited Journeyperson
Paul Costello	Unlimited Journeyperson
John W. Yusza	Electronic Technician
Jacqueline Laramée	Public Member

Members Absent: Peter L. Jennings, Unlimited Contractor

Board Vacancies: Two Unlimited Journeypersons
Three Public Members

DCP Board Staff: Karen Layman, License and Applications Analyst
Richard Hurlburt, Director, Occupational and Professional Division

Others Present: Pamela Brown, DCP Director, Investigations Division
Janita Hamel, DCP Supervising Special Investigator
Leslie O'Brien, DCP Legislative Program Director
Paulette Annon, DCP Assistant Legal Director
Howard Osden, DCP Office Supervisor
Even Dantos, Robinson & Cole
Peter Childree, Electrical Continued Education Provider
James Savoy, Electrical Continued Education Provider

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division, Richard M. Hurlburt, Director. For more information, refer to DCP Agency website: www.ct.gov/dcp. Division E-Mail: dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The Board voted unanimously to approve the August 13, 2021 Electrical Work Examining Board meeting minutes as written.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY:

Peter Childree, James Savoy, Evan Dantos, and Howard Osden were present to observe during the meeting.

DCP INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION:

1. The Board reviewed the complaint report dated 09/01/21 to 10/31/21. Janita Hamel confirmed that the first case on the list is not closed, as appears on report.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Task Force Working Groups:

A. Continued education task force working group

(Members: Larry Vallieres, Richard Bird, Paul Costello)

- **Presentation of continued education curriculum for 2022
(See New Business No. 3)**

B. Statutes and regulations task force working group

(Members: Larry Vallieres, Jacqueline Laramée, John Yusza)

No new discussion took place on this topic.

C. Review of license qualifications task force working group

(Members: Larry Vallieres, Peter Jennings, Christopher Brown)

No new discussion took place on this topic.

2. Substitute House Bill No. 6100 - Public Act 21-37 - An Act Concerning Department of Consumer Protection Licensing and Enforcement, Antitrust Issues, and the Palliative Use of Marijuana and Revisions to the Liquor Control Act

(The link to this bill is as follows: <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/ACT/PA/PDF/2021PA-00037-R00HB-06100-PA.PDF>)

Bill No. 6100 includes changes to Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 393 requiring written contracts meeting certain specifications for work on private residential property by licensed tradespersons and the requirement for a right to cancel timeframe prior to

performing work. The Board had expressed their concern regarding these requirements at previous meetings.

The Department has developed language which addresses the drafting error that was made within this Public Bill. This recent language that has been developed by the Department removes the requirement to provide a contract to the consumer for all work performed, however, includes standards for contracts, if there is one provided, to include the names and license numbers of all people performing work. Discussion took place regarding the Board's concerns about this requirement.

The language discussed today will go before the Legislature during the next Legislative Session. It would be appropriate for the Board to express their concerns when the Legislative Session reconvenes in 2022.

3. Proposed Water Meter license

Larry Vallieres attended the Plumbing and Piping Work Examining Board Special Meeting on August 12, 2021, at which the agenda item being discussed was the potential development of a new limited license for the purpose of installing, servicing, maintaining, and repairing water meters in residences. The Board expressed their concerns relating to safety from an electrical and consumer standpoint. Leslie O'Brien provided information regarding the process of implementing regulatory and/or statutory changes when proposing that a new license type be added. The Department will keep the Board informed as this situation evolves.

Larry Vallieres provided an update on this matter. After communication and research with DCP staff and the City of Norwalk, there no longer remains a concern about the City of Norwalk utilizing persons without an electrical license to perform the above-referenced water meter work, however, there is still a safety concern regarding bonding. The Department is awaiting to be informed of the start date for this project.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Application Review Working Group

A. Applications for review

The following E-1 applicants are requesting a waiver of the two-year period as an E-2 journey person license holder. The applications were tabled at Application Review Working Group meetings for the purpose of the full Board to discuss informally the process of approval of such applicants with out of state experience based on Statute below:

Sec. 20-334a. Types of licenses. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the following licenses may be issued by the Department of Consumer Protection, with the advice and assistance of the boards, under the provisions of section 20- 333:

(1) (A) An unlimited contractor's license may be issued to a person who has served as a journeyman in the trade for which such person seeks a license for not less than two years and, if such service as a journeyman was outside this state, has furnished evidence satisfactory to the appropriate state board or the department that such service is comparable to similar service in this state, or has furnished satisfactory evidence of education and experience and has passed an examination which has demonstrated that such person is competent in all aspects of such trade to be an unlimited contractor.

The tabled applications are as follows:

Applications from the August 18, 2021 Electrical Board Application Review Working Group:

Timothy Barron, Robert Cote, Robert Bishop

Applications from the September 22, 2021 Electrical Board Application Review Working Group:

Oscar Cortez, Adam Cardin, Jon Dyer

Applications from the October 29, 2021 Electrical Board Application Review Working Group:

Gregory Williams, Todd Riley, Christian Sinche

Discussion took place regarding this Statute and how it applies to the processing of applications that include a request for a waiver of this two-year waiting period. It was noted that applicants that request this waiver have different backgrounds, experience, and often hold various licenses from different states, which leads to many variables to consider when reviewing each application.

It was noted that, going forward, it may be helpful for applicants to be required to send in additional documents with their initial submission of their application which would provide the Application Review Working Group with the necessary information needed to make an informed decision.

The nine applications that have been tabled will come before the Application Review Working Group at their next meeting.

B. Continued discussion regarding OSHA 30 completion requirement for the approval of applications

At the May 7, 2021 Electrical Work Examining Board meeting, Larry Vallieres reported that the Application Review Working Group is finding that there are applicants that have completed the apprenticeship program but did not complete the OSHA 30 requirement. The Board discussed ways in which this could be addressed. It was determined that this concern will be brought to the attention of the Dept. of Labor at the next State Apprenticeship Council meeting, and follow-up discussion will take place at the next Board meeting.

This item has been tabled for discussion at a future meeting.

3. Presentation of 2022 provider application and continued education curriculum

After a presentation of the 2022 provider application and continued education curriculum, the Board voted unanimously to approve as was presented today, with the following additions:

- Language to be added to reflect that no portions of his curriculum and/or power point slides shall be reproduced
- Language to be added to reflect a disclaimer for any typos that may appear in this curriculum and/or power point slides.

4. 2022 Board Meeting Schedule

The Board requested that two more meetings be added to the 2022 meeting schedule, for a total of six meetings for the year.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY:

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Layman,
License and Applications Analyst

2022 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE:

February 18
May 13
August 12
November 4